

TOWN OF DALTON
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
WAHCONAH REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - MAY 7, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.

The Moderator, Ronald J. Marcella, Sr., called the Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Elizabeth A. Erb, Michelle PH White, Deborah D. Smith and Maureen M. Mitchell were appointed tellers and sworn by Town Clerk, Barbara L. Suriner. There were a total of 87 Registered Voters checked at the door as follows:

PRECINCT 1 - 47
PRECINCT 2 - 40
87

It was moved, seconded and voted to waive the complete reading of the Warrant.

ARTICLE 1. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town hear a report of the Select Board on the "State of the Town".

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 2. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town, pursuant to the provisions of Section 53E1/2 of Chapter 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, authorize the establishment of revolving funds for certain town departments for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 as follows:

<u>Revolving Fund</u>	<u>Authorized to Spend Fund</u>	<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Use of Fund</u>	<u>FY13 Spending Limit</u>	<u>Disposition of FY13 Fund Balance</u>
Plumbing Inspector	Town Manager	Plumbing permit Fees and applications	Reimburse Inspector for inspection Services	\$15,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Electrical Inspector	Town Manager	Electrical permit Fees and applications	Reimburse Inspector for Inspection Services	\$10,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Tree Warden/ Planning Board	Tree Warden	Payments from subdivision developers	Planting of trees and shrubs within specific locations	\$5,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Historical Commission	Town Manager & Commission Treasurer	Gifts, donations and receipts from sales	Expenses relating to the administrative functions of the commission	\$4,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Cemetery Department	Cemetery Trustees & Superintendent of Highway/Cemetery	Payments for burials outside of the cemetery work day	Grave digging services and overtime payroll expenses	\$2,500.00	Balance up to \$2,500.00 available for expenditure, remainder reverts to the General Fund
Council on Aging	Town Manager & COA Director	Receipt of fees for transportation services	Offset expenses of the BRTA bus operation	\$20,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Council on Aging	Town Manager & COA Director	Receipt of fees for program services	Offset expenses of the COA programs operation	\$15,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Dog/Animal Control	Town Clerk	Dog license fees and other charges as established under Chapter 23 of the Town Code pursuant to MGL Chapter 40 Section 147A	Offset expenses related to the administration of licenses and other animal control matters	\$3,000.00	Balance up to \$3,000 available for expenditure, remainder reverts to the General Fund
Cemetery Department	Cemetery Trustees	Reimbursement payments for damage to town cemeteries	Payment of expenses related to the repair of sustained damage	\$5,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure
Legal Advertising	Town Manager	Legal advertising fees	Payment of expenses related to legal advertisements	\$3,000.00	Balance up to \$3,000 available for expenditure, remainder reverts to the General Fund
Parks Maintenance	Town Manager & Superintendent Highway/Cemetery	Fees from outside users of Pine grove Pavilion	Any lawful maintenance expense in town parks	\$1,000.00	Balance Available for expenditure

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 3. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town adopt the "Schedule of Compensation for Elected Officials" for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 as follows:

<u>ELECTED OFFICIALS</u>	<u>FY 2013</u>
Moderator	\$ 351.00
Select Board - Chairman	4,101.00
- Members (4)	3,266.00
Town Clerk	36,931.00

CARRIED. DECLARED MAJORITY.

ARTICLE 4. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town vote to have all fees, charges and costs collected by the Tax Collector paid into the Town's General Fund.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 5. It was moved, seconded and voted that the amounts of money set forth in the printed report of the Finance Committee, for Fiscal Year 2013 and totaling \$6,352,337 be appropriated for the several purposes therein itemized, each numbered item being considered as a separate appropriation, and that the same be expended only for such purposes.

It was moved, seconded and voted that the reading of the entire report be waived.

FY2013
TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

General Government

114 Moderator	
Salary	351
Expenses	100
	451
122 Select Board	
Salary-Elected	17,167
Expenses	3,422
	20,589
123 Town Manager	
Salaries	122,672
Expenses	7,509
	130,181
131 Finance Committee	
Expenses	185
	185
132 Reserve Fund	
Expenses	See Article # 10
135 Accountant	
Salaries	41,151
Expenses	7,760
	48,911
138 Group Purchasing	
Expenses	600
	600
139 Financial Audit	
Expenses	16,500
	16,500
141 Assessors	
Salaries	82,376
Expenses	17,340
	99,716
142 Tri Revaluation	
Expenses	10,982
	10,982
145 Town Treasurer	
Salaries	69,351
Expenses	21,500
	90,851
146 Town Collector	
Salaries	69,697
Expenses	13,219
	82,916
151 Town Counsel	
Expenses	45,000
	45,000
152 Telephone	
Expenses	14,040
	14,040
154 Recording Secretary	
Salary	4,217

		4,217
157	Computer Expenses	8,500
		8,500
158	Postage Expenses	17,136
		17,136
159	Tax Title Expenses	2,500
161	Town Clerk	2,500
161	Town Clerk Salary-Elected	36,931
	Salaries	28,053
	Expenses	6,510
		71,494
162	Elections Salaries	8,854
	Expenses	6,490
		15,344
163	Registrars Salaries	6,035
	Expenses	3,000
		9,035
171	Conservation Commission Expenses	1,846
		1,846
175	Planning Board/Board of Appeals Salary	23,430
	Expenses	300
		23,730
182	Industrial Development Commission Expenses	910
		910
191	Old Dalton High Salary	0
	Expenses	7,100
		7,100
192	Buildings Maintenance Salary	52,414
	Expenses	9,841
		62,255
195	Town Report Expenses	6,650
		6,650
196	Town Hall Salaries	1,500
	Expenses	64,400
		65,900
197	Central Supplies Salaries	13,800
	Expenses	13,800
	CATEGORY TOTAL	871,339
	Public Safety	
210	Police Department Salaries	785,982
	Expenses	92,019
		878,001
222	Communications Salaries	164,306
	Expenses	8,512
		172,818
240	Building Inspections Salaries	39,433
	Expenses	1,700
		41,133
244	Sealer of Weights & Measures Salary	1,268
	Expenses	100
		1,368
247	Animal Inspector Salary	1,280
		1,280
292	Animal Control Salaries	19,274
	Expenses	3,619
		22,893
294	Forest Warden Salary	2,347

	<u>2012</u>	
	Expenses	1,150
		3,497
295	Emergency Response	
	Salary	1,378
	Expenses	5,665
		7,043
296	Shade Tree/Tree Warden	
	Salary	1,996
	Expenses	16,000
		17,996
	CATEGORY TOTAL	1,146,029
	Education	
320	Vocational Education	
	Expenses	688,897
		688,897
	CATEGORY TOTAL	688,897
401	Town Engineer	
	Expenses	4,000
		4,000
420	Highway Department	
	Salaries	298,798
	Expenses	122,798
		421,596
423	Snow & Ice	
	Salaries	27,267
	Expenses	112,330
		139,597
424	Streetlights	
	Expenses	82,800
		82,800
433	Landfill Monitoring	
	Salaries	
	Expenses	See Article #22
434	Transfer Station	
	Expenses	17,565
		17,465
440	Sewer Maintenance (Offset Receipts)	
	Salaries	14,046
	Expenses	15,350
		29,396
449	Sewer Treatment Plant (Offset Receipts)	
	Salaries	895
	Expenses	708,754
		709,649
491	Cemetery Department	
	Salaries	54,984
	Expenses	20,024
		75,008
	CATEGORY TOTAL	1,479,511
	Human Services	
510	Board of Health	
	Salary	26,886
	Expenses	1,907
		28,793
522	Public Health Nurse	
	Salary	5,800
	Expenses	500
		6,300
523	Mental Health & Substance Abuse	
	Expenses	2,143
		2,143
541	Council on Aging	
	Salaries	85,023
	Expenses	24,596
		109,619
543	Veterans' Services	
	Salary	6,498
	Expenses	23,300
		29,798
591	Berkshire Regional Planning Commission	
	Expenses	4,529
		4,529
	CATEGORY TOTAL	181,182
	Culture and Recreation	
610	Library	
	Salaries	121,998
	Expenses	56,898

630 Parks and Recreation	See Article # 6
650 Parks Maintenance	
Salaries	29,499
Expenses	16,590
	46,089
691 Historical Commission	
Expenses	600
	600
692 Memorial Day Committee	
Expenses	1,970
	1,970
693 Cultural Activities	
Expenses	2,280
	2,280
CATEGORY TOTAL	229,835
Debt Service	
710B(L) Bond Fees	500
	500
710H Debt and Interest (Highway & TH)	46,514
	46,514
710C Debt and Interest (Capital Imp Program)	See Article # 14
710TH Debt and Interest (TH)	94,536
	94,536
710L/S Library/Senior Center	120,596
	120,596
CATEGORY TOTAL	262,146
Other	
911 Berkshire County Retirement Assessment	
Expenses	339,590
	339,590
913 Unemployment	
Expenses	10,000
	10,000
914 Group Health Insurance	
Expenses	862,542
	862,542
915 Group Life Insurance	
Expenses	6,500
	6,500
916 Medicare	
Expenses	32,434
	32,434
919 Employment Benefits	
Salaries	25,180
Expenses	1,580
	26,760
998 Pension Reserve Fund	
Expenses	0
	0
941 Court Judgments & Claims	
Expenses	3,000
	3,000
945 Town Insurance	
Expenses	212,343
	212,343
950 Commissioner of Trust Funds	
Expenses	229
	229
CATEGORY TOTAL	1,493,398
ARTICLE TOTAL	6,352,337

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 6. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate the sum of \$58,955.00 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, for the purpose of providing recreation and leisure time activities to the people of Dalton.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 7. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate the sum of \$6,879,791.00 for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Operating Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 8. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate the sum of \$536,847.00 for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Transportation Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 9. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate the sum \$236,368.00 for the purpose of paying the Town's share of the Capital Budget of the Central Berkshire Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 10. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$65,000.00 from Free Cash in the Treasury to Account 132, the Reserve Fund, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2012.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 11. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$512,000.00 from Free Cash in the Treasury for the purpose of reducing the expected tax rate increase in the 2013 fiscal year.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 12. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$23,000.00 from Free Cash in the Treasury to the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund.

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 13. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate \$14,250.00 and further to transfer \$50,750.00 from Free Cash in the Treasury to the Sewer Stabilization Fund.

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 14. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$44,590.00 from the Capital Stabilization Fund, for the purpose of paying principal and interest on debt incurred under the Capital Improvement Program, due and payable in the 2013 fiscal year.

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 15. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer the sum of \$79,800.00 from Free Cash in the Treasury for the Capital Improvement Program for the following departments and purposes: Police - Mobile Radios, repeaters and related equipment; Sewers - repairs and improvements to the area of Burr Drive and, East Deming Street, including North St, or any streets in the vicinity relating thereto; Library - replace entryway doors; Treasurer - fireproof filing cabinets; and further that said appropriation shall be immediately available for expenditure.

Department	Project/Equipment/Program	Estimated Cost
Police	Mobile Radios, repeaters & related equipment	\$21,600
Sewers	Sewer Repairs & Improvements, North St., Burr Drive, East Deming	\$40,000
Library	Replace Entryway Doors	\$10,000
Treasurer	Two Fireproof Filing Cabinets	\$3,200
Cemetery	Masonry Repairs Main St. Chapel (Total \$10,000 - \$5,000 is expected to come from the Cemetery Trust)	\$5,000
Totals		\$79,800

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 16. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate the sum of \$205,000.00 for the Fiscal Year 2013 Capital Improvement Program; including borrowing costs associated with said program and all other costs incidental or related thereto; that to meet this appropriation the Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board is authorized to borrow said sum under G.L. c.44, §7(3A) or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that this appropriation and borrowing is expressly contingent upon Town approval of a Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion question; that the Select Board is authorized to contract for and expend any federal or state aid available for this program; and that the Select Board is authorized to take any other action necessary to carry out this project; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the Town votes to exempt from the limitation on total taxes imposed by G.L. c.59, §21C (Proposition 2½) amounts required to pay the principal of and interest on the borrowing authorized by this vote.

Department	Project/Equipment/Program	Estimated Cost/Borrowing
Police	Police Cruiser & related equipment	\$39,000
Highways/Sewers	Highway Equipment – Small Excavator, ½ Ton Pick-up and related equipment	\$91,000
Town Hall	Crane Meeting Room -Split A/C Unit, (\$9,000) Convert Burners to dual fuel (\$30,000), insulation primarily above town offices (\$30,000 allowance)	\$69,000
Tree Warden	Shade Trees	\$6,000
Totals		\$205,000

TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIRED

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 17. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town appropriate \$225,869.00 from available funds to be reimbursed by a Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in accordance with Chapter 90 Section 34 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 18. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town authorize employment agreements between the Town and Highway/Cemetery Superintendent, the Highway/Cemetery Foreman, and the Police Sergeant; all of which include annual salaries that were provided for under Article 5 hereinabove.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 19. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer \$10,363.29 from Salaries to Expenses to fund additional expenses in Fiscal Year 2012 in department #423, Snow and Ice.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 20. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town accept Section 20 of Chapter 32B of the Massachusetts General Laws providing for the establishment of a fund to be known as the Other Post Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund to reduce the unfunded actuarial liability of health care and other post-employment benefits.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 21. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town create an Unemployment Compensation Fund under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40 section 5E, in order to provide for the costs of funding reimbursements to the commonwealth for unemployment compensation benefits under the provisions of chapter one hundred and fifty-one A, and further to transfer the sum of \$5,000 from Free Cash in the Treasury to said Unemployment Compensation Fund.

CARRIED.

UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 22. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town transfer the remaining funds of \$148,281.48 in the Landfill Closure Debt Service Account to a Landfill Monitoring Continuing Appropriation account for the purpose of paying for the annual salaries and expenses in Account 433 Landfill Closure and Monitoring, including capital expenses, if any, until such funds are fully expended and further that \$14,146 be transferred from this account to said account number 433 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012.

CARRIED. UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 23. It was moved, seconded and voted that the Town recess until MONDAY, MAY 14, 2012 at 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. to meet in the DALTON COMMUNITY HOUSE, to choose and elect the following Town Officers and to vote on Ballot Questions 1 as follows:

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- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| (1) | Member(s) - Select Board | For 3 Years |
| (1) | Town Clerk | For 3 Years |
| (1) | Moderator | For 1 Year |
| (1) | Member - Planning Board | For 5 Years |
| (1) | Member – Dalton Housing Authority | For 5 Years |
| (1) | Member – Dalton Housing Authority | For 2 Years |
| (1) | Cemetery Trustee | For 3 Years |
| (3) | Library Trustees | For 3 Years |
| (3) | Members - Finance Committee | For 3 Years |

QUESTION 1

Shall the Town of Dalton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds or notes issued in order to pay for the Fiscal Year 2013 Capital Improvement Program consisting of a Police Cruiser and related equipment, Highway Equipment, including a Small Excavator, and ½ Ton Pick-up and related equipment, Crane Meeting Room air conditioning unit, converting Town Hall Burners to dual fuel(natural gas), and insulate above Town Hall Offices, purchase and plant Shade Trees., and including borrowing costs associated with said project and all other costs incidental or related thereto?

YES _____

NO _____

Meeting recessed at 8:27 p.m.

Barbara L. Suriner, TOWN CLERK
